



Support 60+ Environmental Groups
with just **One** gift

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the benefits of adding EarthShare to your employee giving program?

EarthShare Washington's 60+ organizations resonate with a broad employee base. Non-profits as diverse as Washington Trails Association, EarthCorps, Climate Solutions, People For Puget Sound – they embody the reasons people live and raise families in Washington State. Prominent businesses like Microsoft, Boeing, REI, Aerojet, Mithun and others enthusiastically support EarthShare of Washington. In the words of Sally Jewell, CEO of REI, "Our employees [are] passionate about giving back. EarthShare gives our employees a way to support environmental and conservation groups that are making a difference in our state and local communities."

How is a donor's gift distributed?

Donations to EarthShare Washington (ESW) are distributed equally among our organizations. One Microsoft supporter said, "Because EarthShare Washington balances local and national recipients, our support is felt at home but also contributes to a global picture of environmental health." Donors may also choose to have their gifts directed to the organization(s) of their choice according to the guidelines established by their workplace.

How does ESW choose its member organizations?

The process begins with the recruitment of an evaluation team. This team of community leaders – including experts in science, communications, non-profit operations, and program evaluation – reviews applications from scores of interested organizations. Following this two-month review, the team recommends organizations to the EarthShare Washington's board of directors for final review and selection. The process renews triennially, while the ESW staff reviews each organization's finances and programs in the intervening years. Organizations must focus on one or more of the following critical issue areas: (1) energy & climate; forests, (2) habitat, & wildlife; (3) pollution & toxics; (4) sustainable communities; (5) recreation & parks. Scrutinizing its organizations regularly is one reason EarthShare Washington has earned the confidence of tens of thousands of donors.

How does adding ESW to our campaign affect employee participation?

Adding choices to employee giving programs empowers the employees and increases overall participation "A rising tide," the saying goes, "lifts all boats."

Our employees can already designate to any charity via United Way.

While United Way's intent is to offer broad choices for everyone, its impact is to highlight health and human service agencies to prospective donors. No one represents the breadth of community health and human service charities better than United Way. Likewise, EarthShare Washington is the voice for livable communities and a healthy planet. ESW provides employees a direct connection to key resources on issues ranging from climate change to pollution prevention. Washingtonians draw strength and inspiration from the mountains, waters, woodlands, farms, parks and open spaces that surround our home. They volunteer regularly through our website, www.esw.org. We want our children and neighborhoods free from the effects of harmful chemicals. Together, we can create healthy and sustainable communities.



Visit www.esw.org
to learn more about EarthShare Washington.